



UNITED
NATIONS
BAHRAIN



2021 COUNTRY RESULTS REPORT

APRIL 2022



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FOREWORD



“
The actual test of the United Nations development system reform is measured by the tangible results achieved for the people we serve.”

Mohamed El Zarkani
United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i. in Bahrain

At the United Nations in Bahrain, we take the beginning of each year as an opportunity to reflect on the results that we have achieved together with our many partners in supporting the country to realize its national priorities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We also look back at the challenges that we encountered along the way and take on board the lessons that we learned while setting our main objectives for the year ahead.

In 2021, the United Nations in Bahrain continued to work in a challenging environment brought upon the country, the region and the whole world by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic continued to test our resilience and resolve, which, nevertheless, proved to be sound in the face of an unprecedented crisis. Although some of our activities had to be postponed and others had to be redesigned, we managed to move forward with the implementation of most of our projects and initiatives and develop new ones for the future, achieving significant results in the process.

The year was especially important for us as an organization because it marked the signing of our Strategic and Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2022 with the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain. The document – the first of its kind in the Gulf region – is the single most

important instrument for planning and implementation of the United Nations development activities at the country level.

The new cooperation frameworks are a centrepiece of the United Nations development system reform launched by the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in 2019 to reposition the system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda, and the Cooperation Framework in Bahrain was developed with that vision in mind. The document builds on the success of its predecessor and is designed to respond to the Economic Vision 2030 for Bahrain as well as the 2019-2022 Government Action Plan.

In line with the reform and the new Cooperation Framework, we also strengthened our coherence, effectiveness and efficiency at the country level, including through the development of new coordination mechanisms. However, the actual test of the reform is measured by the tangible results achieved for the people we serve. Many such results are captured in this report, serving as a testament to our success in 2021.

In 2022, we look forward to building on our previous success by continuing with the implementation of the Cooperation Framework in close partnership with the Government of

Bahrain, placing a strong emphasis on leaving no one behind in the development process. We also look forward to strengthening further our coordination mechanisms, consolidating our existing partnerships while building new ones at the same time, and stepping up our resource mobilization and joint analysis efforts to bolster our development efforts in the country.

United Nations Country Team in the Kingdom of Bahrain

Photo credit: ©iStock.com-eugenegergeev

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in the Kingdom of Bahrain is composed of representatives of 21 United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies working jointly under the leadership of the United Nations Resident Coordinator to support the country in achieving its development priorities and fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A United Nations Information Centre also works in close coordination with the UNCT and is the principal source of information about the United Nations system in the country.

The UNCT conducts its work in the country in line with the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and United Nations Strategic and Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (SCF) 2021-2022, which was signed in the first half of 2021. This document is the most important instrument for planning and implementation of the United Nations development activities in Bahrain. Anchored in national development priorities and the 2030 Agenda, the SCF 2021-2022 outlines four strategic priority areas for the UNCT work on the ground, corresponding to four outcomes and including several outputs.

SCF 2021-2022 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUT AREAS



Priority Area 1 ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND FOOD

Outcome 1

Policies and frameworks are strengthened for the sustainable management of natural resources, sustainable energy, climate resilience and enhanced food security

Output Areas

- Conservation of natural resources and biodiversity
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Food security and nutrition

Priority Area 2 QUALITY, COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL SERVICES

Outcome 2

Strengthened social sector policies and systems improve the delivery of quality, inclusive services for Bahraini citizens and residents

Output Areas

- Quality education
- Healthy lives and well-being
- Healthy, safe and resilient cities
- Social cohesion and the protection of vulnerable groups

Priority Area 3 ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND RESILIENCE

Outcome 3

Enhanced policies and regulatory frameworks strengthen conditions for economic diversification, employment creation, rule of law, and increased resilience and innovation

Output Areas

- Economic diversification
- Development-oriented and gender-responsive policies and tools
- Rule of law, access to justice, and safety and security
- Research and data

Priority Area 4 BAHRAIN AMONG NATIONS

Outcome 4

The Kingdom of Bahrain plays an enhanced role in international and regional partnerships for sustainable development, including peace and security initiatives, and to expand South-South cooperation

Output Areas

- International commitments
- Promotion of SDGs by all
- Advancement and protection of human rights

UNITED NATIONS ENTITIES WORKING IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK



KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The Government of Bahrain is the main partner of the United Nations in the country, with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs serving as the primary coordinating authority and counterpart in the cooperation process. Our partnership is rooted in the common commitment to advance the achievement of national priorities and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The endorsement of the SCF 2021-2022 in the first half of 2021 marked a new phase in the long-standing partnership between the United Nations and the Government of Bahrain, bringing strengthened coherence and coordination to our work in the country. A wide range of government entities, including key ministries, agencies and advisory authorities, serve as active partners in the SCF 2021-2022 implementation, across all priority areas, reflecting the strong government ownership of cooperation framework outcomes.

Because civil society has a critical role to play in development, we work very closely with civil society organizations on a variety of issues, including on the engagement of youth in development processes and initiatives. We further tap into the innovation potential of the private sector to advance the achievement of SDGs.

Academic and research institutions are also among the many partners with which we work on development results, particularly in the field of education and around research initiatives.

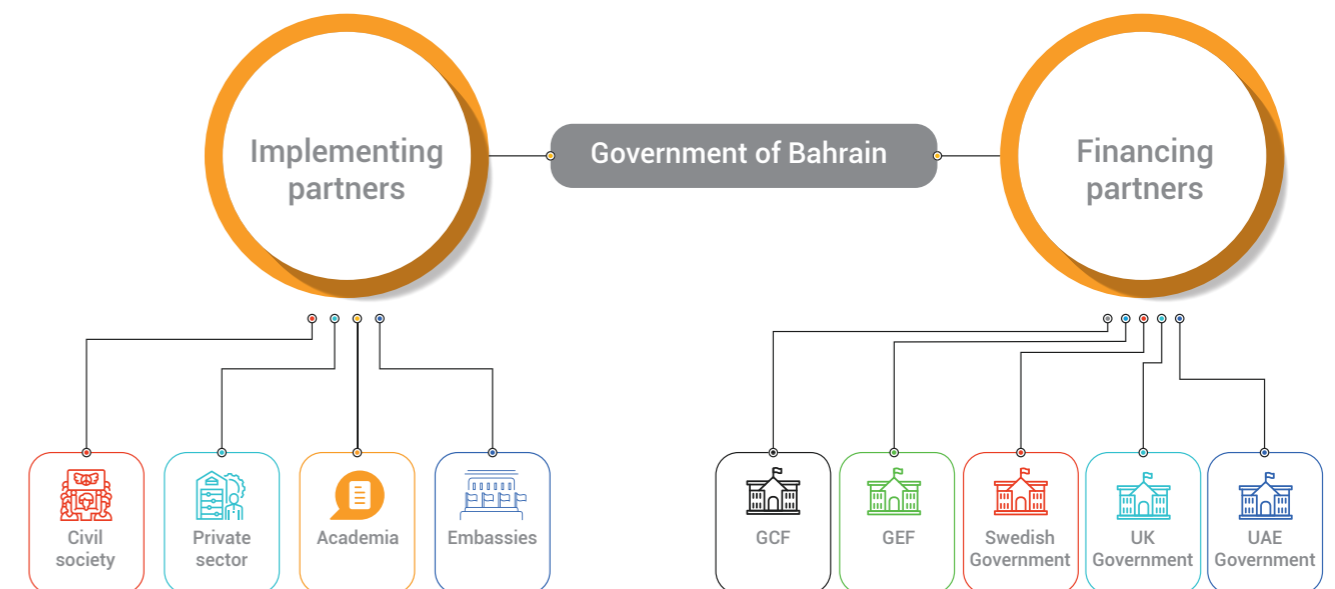
Finally, we partner with various embassies based in or accredited to Bahrain to bring both the specialized knowledge and expertise and the necessary resources to the implementation of specific development activities. Our embassy partners in 2021 included the British, French, German, Palestinian and Israeli diplomatic missions.

FINANCING PARTNERS

In addition to being the main implementing partner of the United Nations in Bahrain, the Government of Bahrain is also by far its largest financial contributor. The Global Environment Facility and the Global Climate Fund were the second and third largest sources of funding for the United Nations in Bahrain in 2021, followed by the Governments of Sweden, United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates, taking into account their contributions to regional initiatives.

A list of key development partners of the United Nations in the Kingdom of Bahrain in 2021 is included in annex 1.

KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS



**KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY
AND THE REGIONAL CONTEXT**

CHAPTER

7

1 KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND THE REGIONAL CONTEXT

As elsewhere in the world, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a profound effect on all aspects of life in Bahrain throughout 2021. While the Kingdom was widely recognized for its coordinated response to COVID-19 and implemented a range of successful public health mitigation strategies – including fully vaccinating over 70 per cent of the eligible population – the economic recovery was undermined by the emergence of a new variant of the virus and another wave of cases towards the end of the year. Nevertheless, Bahrain remained well placed to respond to the latest variant, imposing tighter restrictions into the new year to contain the spread. At the same time, government economic stimulus and support measures are likely to continue into 2022 as broader recovery plans are set in motion to support the economy.

After a 5.1 per cent decline in real GDP growth in 2020, the economy of Bahrain rebounded in 2021, experiencing an estimated 2.1 per cent growth based on the Economist

Intelligence Unit data. The economy was expected to grow further to 3.2 per cent in 2022. Over the course of 2021, Bahrain continued to prioritize addressing its fiscal situation. Although the implementation of the Fiscal Balance Programme, launched in 2018 and designed to eliminate the fiscal deficit by 2022, was undermined by the COVID-19 pandemic, with the deadline to reach fiscal balance being pushed to 2024, the deficit was expected to continue narrowing owing, in part, to higher oil prices and other cost rationalization measures, including raising the value added tax to 10 per cent, a measure which was implemented on 1 January 2022.

As part of its long-standing focus on diversification, and in response to the pandemic, the Government announced the Industrial Sector Strategy 2022-2026, which encompassed renewed commitments to renewable energy and a circular carbon economy as well as the creation of five new cities on reclaimed land.

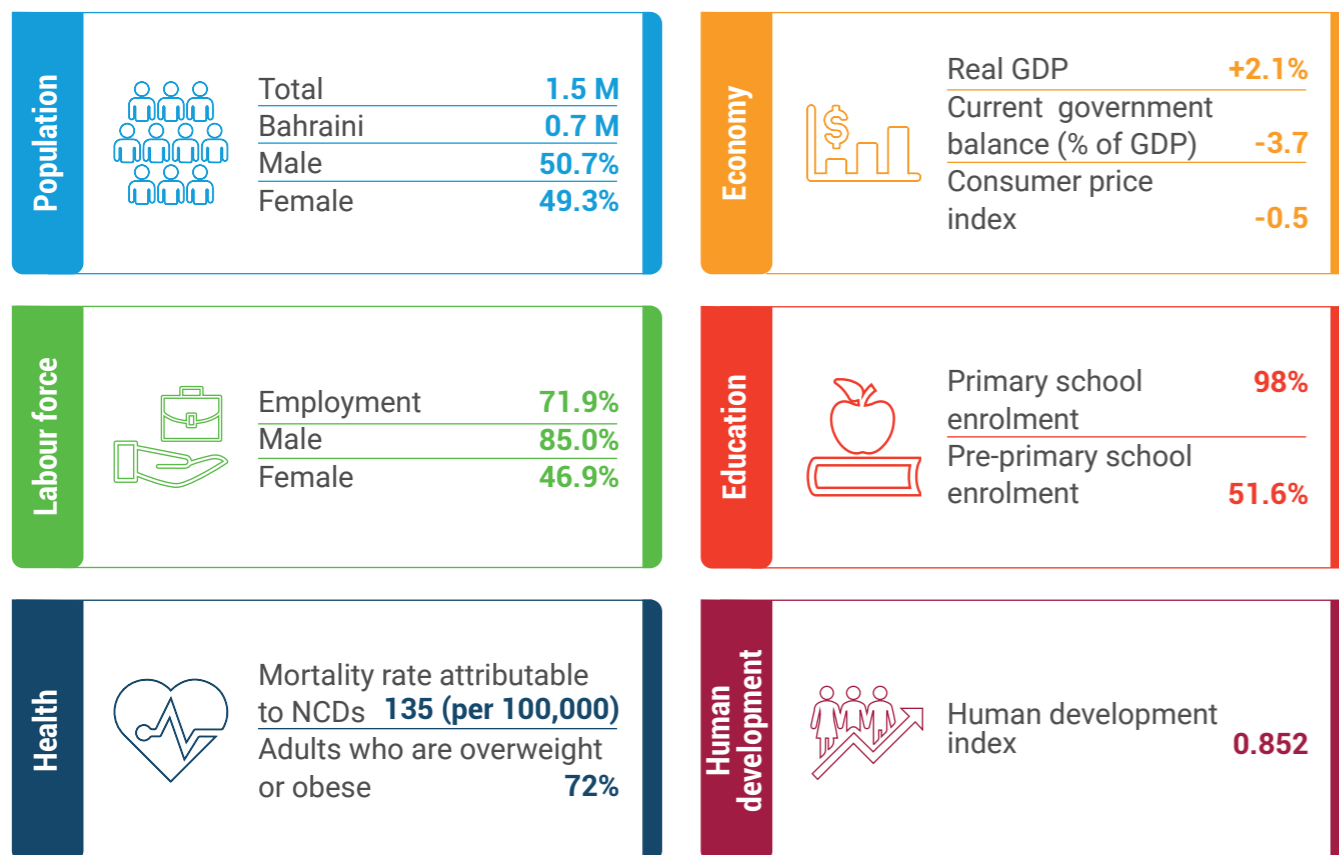
With a census carried out in the second quarter of 2020, the socioeconomic demographic profile of the country became clearer. The population, which international projections had put at 1.7 million, was in fact recorded as 1.5 million. This was partially due to the job losses linked to the pandemic and the subsequent departure of migrant workers.

SDG trends showed slippage in the overall ranking of the country on the SDG Index from 82 out of 166 countries in 2020 to 100 out of 165 in 2021, indicating room for improvement in several areas, in particular with respect to the goals related to the environment, including SDG 11, for which a downward trend was observed. At the same time, Bahrain ranked high on the Human Development Index, with the latest available data from 2019 placing the country at 42 out of 189.

While the broader regional political situation was marked by major events, such as the United States’ withdrawal from Afghanistan, 2021 signalled a relative easing of tensions in the Gulf. The Abraham Accords, which marked the normalization of relations with Israel in 2020, continued to inform strengthening regional ties, marked by several high-level visits.

Bahrain continued to strengthen international cooperation throughout 2021. Joining countries from around the world, Bahrain announced during the Twenty-Sixth United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties in Glasgow its commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2060 and cut emissions by 30 per cent by 2035. Bahrain also won the presidency of the Executive Committee of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer for 2022 and became a member of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education.

KEY FACTS



Note: Economic statistics are 2021 estimates, population and labour force statistics are for 2020, human development and education statistics are for 2019, and health statistics are for 2018/2019. Data sources: Information and eGovernment Authority, Ministry of Health, Economist Intelligence Unit, World Bank and other United Nations entities.



Photo credit: UN

“The Kingdom of Bahrain is one example of a country that has run a highly successful vaccination programme. [...] What we need to do now is to emulate Bahrain’s success at a global level. We must end global vaccine disparities and distribute the many vaccines we have at our disposal to all the countries that need it.”

Abdulla Shahid
President of the United Nations General Assembly



Photo credit: GoB

“A future net zero economy capable of propelling humanity to new heights depends entirely on the ability of all people to participate in it, both as producers and as consumers. We must therefore ensure that our work to curb emissions moves in lockstep with our work to improve livelihoods.”

HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa
The Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH
THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK**

**CHAPTER
2**

Photo credit: MoH Bahrain
In June 2021, Manama was designated a 'Healthy City 2021' by WHO. In the photo, the Manama skyline turned orange as part of a campaign aimed at promoting safe and respectful childbirth organized in 2021 to mark the World Patient Safety Day

2 UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

OVERVIEW OF THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK RESULTS IN 2021

The SCF 2021-2022 embodies the comprehensive and coherent response of the United Nations to development priorities in Bahrain and commitment to support the country in realizing its Economic Vision 2030 and SDGs. The document provided the foundation for the development by the UNCT of a Joint Work Plan (JWP) for its practical implementation. The plan was developed for the period of the cooperation

framework and structured around its four priority areas and their corresponding outcomes as well as around 14 outputs. All 21 United Nations entities signatories of the SCF 2021-2022 contributed their planned activities to the document, which were consolidated into 57 sub-outputs. The document also included a series of indicators to allow for progress to be measured in its implementation.

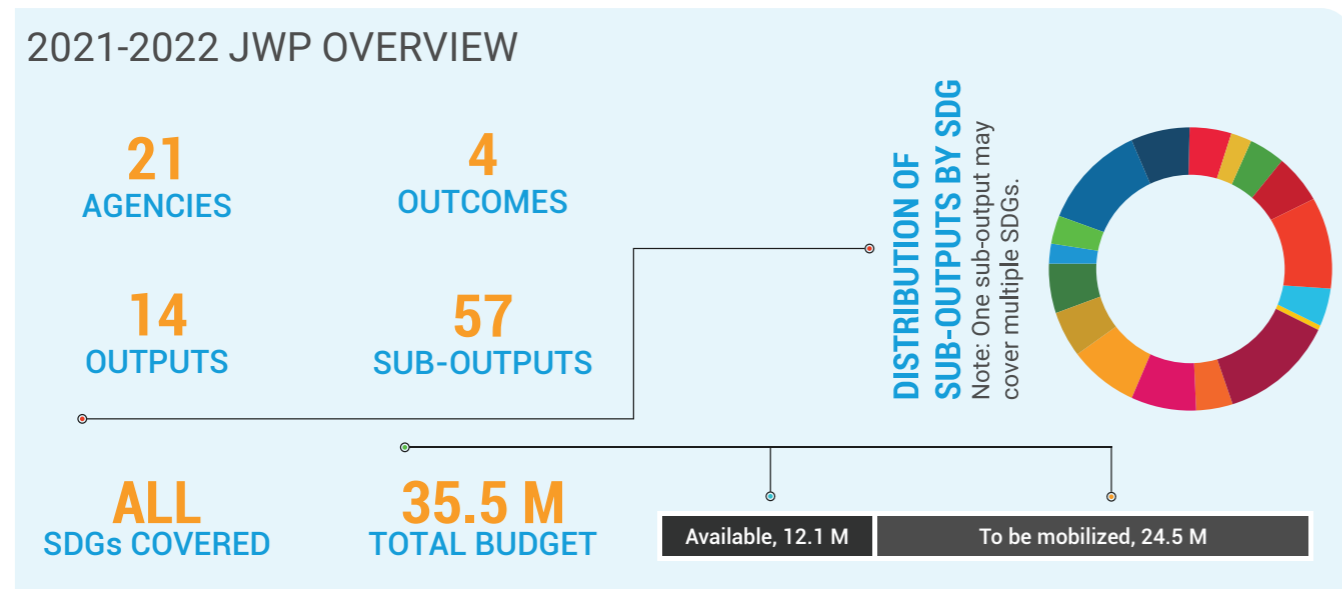


Photo credit: MoFA
Review of the SCF 2021-2022 results by the Joint Steering Committee in February 2022.

During the year, the United Nations in Bahrain achieved significant results in the implementation of the plan across all its outcomes and outputs through the undertaking of activities under 37 of the 38 sub-outputs with timelines covering all or part of 2021. Most of these activities focused on capacity development and the provision of policy advice and thought leadership, closely matching national priorities.

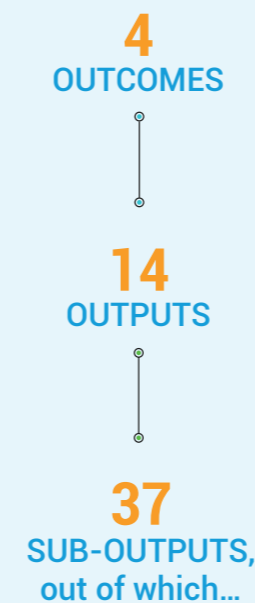
Out of the 37 sub-outputs, 41 per cent had gender equality as a principal or significant objective, and 51 per cent had human rights as a principal or significant objective, reflecting the strong commitment of the UNCT to the promotion of human rights and gender equality in Bahrain. The support provided spanned all SDGs.

The total expenditures for the implementation of the plan in 2021 amounted to \$4.8 million. The contribution of the Government of Bahrain represented approximately two-thirds of the total while core resources accounted for another one-fifth. Contributions from other partners covered the remainder of expenditures.

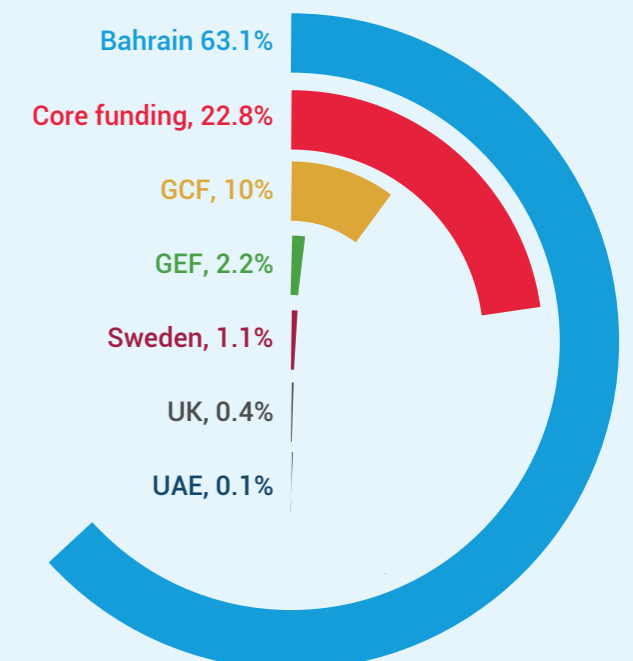
A detailed account of the results of the United Nations in Bahrain under each priority area of the SCF 2021-2022 and a financial overview follow in this report. The progress made by the UNCT in strengthening its coordination, coherence and efficiency, as well as the challenges and lessons learned during the year, are also discussed along with the priorities for 2022.

JWP RESULTS OVERVIEW FOR 2021

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED UNDER:



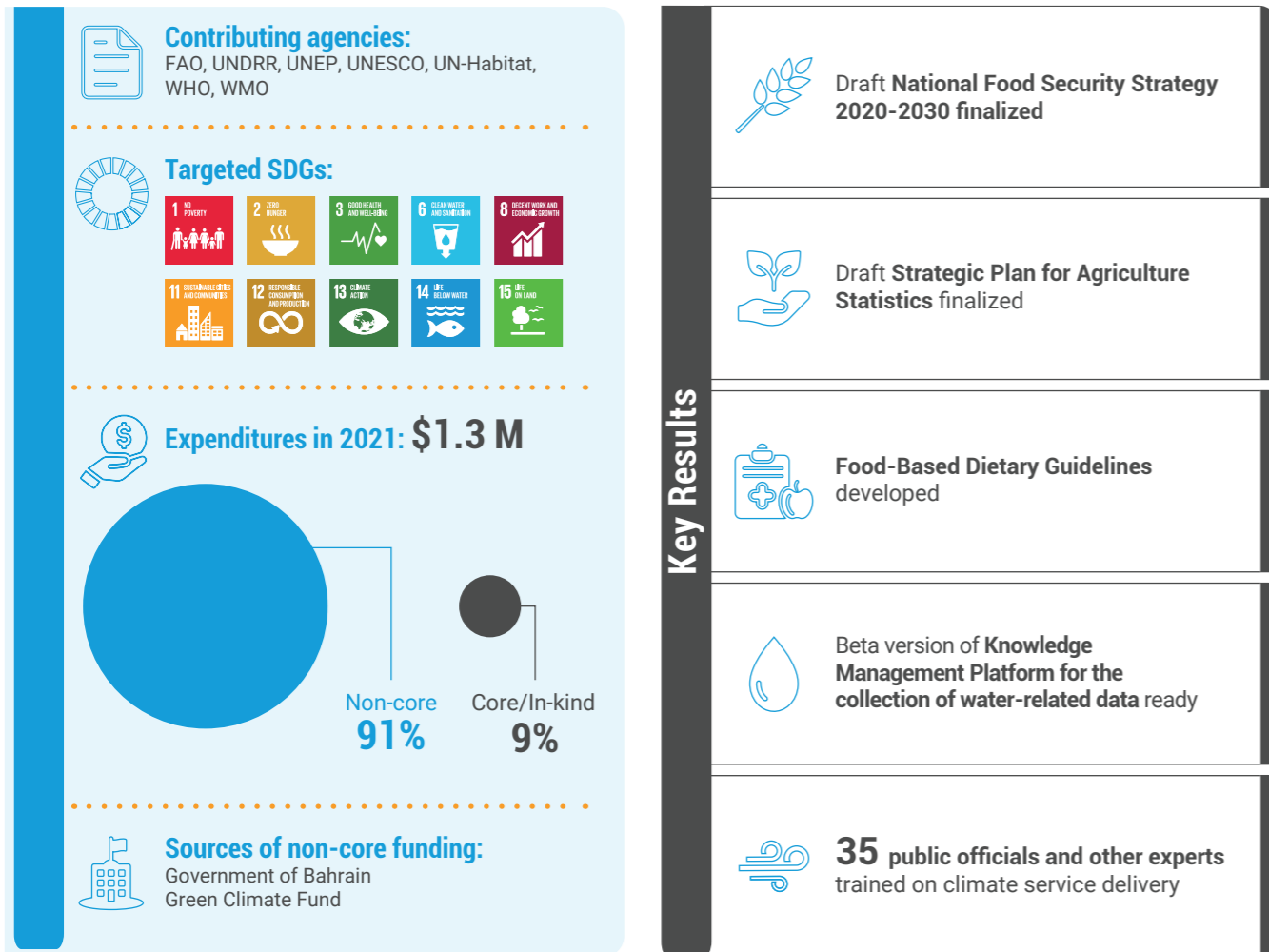
4.8 M in TOTAL EXPENDITURES



Note: A sub-output may have more than one focus area.

COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

OUTCOME 1: ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND FOOD



In 2021, the United Nations made significant progress towards the conservation of natural resources, strengthening climate change adaptation and mitigation capacities and improving food security and nutrition in the country through specialized technical assistance and policy advice.

Conserving natural resources and terrestrial biodiversity

During the year, the United Nations supported the staff of the Ministry of Works, Municipality Affairs and Urban Planning to improve their knowledge and skills in the identification of livestock breeds and their risk status through capacity development efforts, allowing for targeted measures and policies to be put in place to ensure their conservation and sustainable use. The preparation of strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of breeds along with the

national report on animal genetic resources was in progress at the end of the year.

Strengthening climate change adaptation and mitigation capacities

Strengthening climate change adaptation and mitigation capacities remained a priority for the United Nations in Bahrain during the year, with concrete steps being taken to this end. A total of 35 experts from relevant entities increased their knowledge and skills in climate seasonal forecasting, sand and dust storm forecasting, and hydrology and water resource assessment.

Bahrain also participated in the Arab and Gulf Cooperation Council climate outlook forums with the United Nations support and benefited from technical advice in the

establishment of a sand and dust storm regional centre in Bahrain. The centre was expected to be created once it met all the required criteria for such a facility.

Climate change being inextricably linked to water quality and availability, significant time and effort were allocated for the promotion of technologies for responsible water demand management in the country, resulting in the availability of a beta version of a Knowledge Management Platform for the collection and processing of water-related data. A water planning module was also being developed as part of the platform to help inform the allocation of scarce water resources, with adequate training being provided to stakeholders to ensure its efficient use. The formulation of guidelines and completion of pilots for the safe reuse of water resources were among a few other results achieved with the support of the United Nations in the field.

Improving food security and nutrition

In the area of food security and nutrition, the United Nations policy advice and thought leadership was instrumental

in the drafting of a new National Food Security Strategy, which outlined a comprehensive approach to ensuring the availability of sufficient, safe and nutritious food for all people in Bahrain. At the same time, the consumption of a healthy, nutritionally adequate diet was promoted through the development of context-embedded and evidence-driven food-based dietary guidelines.

To further enhance food security in the country, the capacity of the National Mariculture Centre was consolidated through support provided for the improvement of brood stock management and hatchery facilities, diversification of aquaculture produce and training delivery. In line with the "One Health" approach to human and animal health, a multi-stakeholder technical team was also established to facilitate the detection, prevention and control of animal diseases, enabling the incorporation of a wide range of needs in the process. Lastly, with the support of the United Nations, a draft Strategic Plan for Agriculture Statistics was finalized, and a relevant methodology was put in place to further contribute to building the capacity of national staff to independently collect, process, analyse and publish agriculture statistics, particularly on crops and livestock.



“It is vital to develop more sustainable consumption and production practices – for instance, decreasing the demand for raw materials and increasing the demand for used materials that can be repurposed, recycled or upcycled. We aim to build a diverse community focused on sustainable lifestyles and to replicate successful initiatives.”

Paolo Marengo
UN Volunteer Project Associate, UNEP Regional Office for West Asia, Manama, Bahrain



OUTCOME 2: QUALITY, COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL SERVICES

Contributing agencies:
FAO, ILO, IOM, UN Women, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO

Targeted SDGs:

Expenditures in 2021: \$1.8 M

Non-core	76%
Core/In-kind	24%

Sources of non-core funding:
Government of Bahrain

The support provided by the United Nations throughout the year to the strengthening of social sector policies and systems to improve the delivery of quality, inclusive services for Bahraini citizens resulted in multiple important achievements in the fields of health, education and urban development as well as in greater protection of specific vulnerable populations.

Enhancing the quality of education

In the field of education, around 150 administrators, service providers and decision makers became better equipped to plan, regulate and deliver early childhood development services following their participation in capacity strengthening initiatives supported by the United Nations. In addition, some 100 teachers, administrators and decision makers increased their awareness of online safety and prevention of bullying. As a result of the additional capacity development efforts implemented with the support of the United Nations during the year, over 300 education professionals increased their knowledge and skills to provide quality education services.

Key Results

- >300 teachers, administrators and other professionals** are better equipped to improve education services
- 75 children** have increased awareness of online safety
- 13-module course on Gender and Economic Policy Management** developed and validated
- First action plan** in the region to improve access to assistive technology to PwDs developed

The mainstreaming of SDGs in higher education was also strengthened. More specifically, a 13-module policymakers course on Gender and Economic Policy Management became available to students following its development and validation by the University of Bahrain with the support of the United Nations. In addition, the university faculty improved their capacities in the delivery of a PhD course on SDGs through their participation in a training session for trainers, and work on the development of an SDG strategy for the University of Bahrain moved forward.

Promoting healthy lives and well-being

In the field of health, the United Nations continued to support the implementation of the National Action Plan 2019-2022 by promoting 'Health for All by All' in close partnership with the Ministry of Health and several other institutions. As a result of these efforts, in 2021, Bahrain became the first country in the region to develop a national action plan to improve access to assistive technology in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the commitment to achieve Universal Health Coverage, as well as the SDGs more broadly. A SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-based) action plan for strengthening national tobacco control efforts was also developed. Both documents benefited from United Nations expertise at different stages of their development.



Photo credit: Sabah Saleh Aljenid

WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Science and gender equality are both essential for sustainable development. Yet Bahraini women and girls continue to face some gender-based obstacles when pursuing scientific careers. **Dr Sabah Saleh Al-Jenid**, who works closely with different United Nations entities and is an Associate Professor of Geoinformatics at the Arabian Gulf University, hopes to see "more women getting into modelling, IT coding, programming, and Artificial Intelligence". "As a climate scientist interested in environmental crises, I believe that Bahrain has yet to address several challenges such as road networking and renewable energy infrastructure. We, Bahraini women in science, have an essential role to play", she said.



Photo credit: UoB



We at the University of Bahrain, through our WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Development (WHOCC), act in partnership with WHO. This collaboration and partnership strengthen our contribution in capacity building for nurses and advancing nursing and midwifery education nationally and regionally. As a Bahraini nurse leader, I'm proud to be one of the driving forces for transforming nursing and midwifery education in the region.

Dr Leena Mohammad Khonji

Dean of the College of Health and Sport Sciences and Director of WHOCC for Nursing Development, University of Bahrain

The capacity of health care professionals to deliver quality services was further strengthened. Over 30 in-country trainers, representing the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, gained increased knowledge and skills in school mental health and another 60 became better prepared to advance the achievement of Universal Health Coverage through the capacity development activities implemented by the United Nations. Moreover, the participation of the Ministry of Health focal points in at least five regional capacity development activities on different health care topics was facilitated.

Additional notable results in the field included the strengthening of partnerships for health in the country, including through the implementation of an SDG stakeholder mapping and fostering the participation of communities in health-related initiatives. Efforts were also made to help address the rising mortality rate from non-communicable diseases in the country, including through high-level policy advice and technical support, as well as to raise awareness around the significant burden of risk and harm that women and newborns are exposed to if receiving unsafe care during childbirth.

Creating inclusive, safe and resilient cities

The United Nations continued to promote the creation of inclusive, safe and resilient urban environments in Bahrain throughout the year. To this end, electronic waste

management was consolidated through a stepwise approach. As a first step, an inventory guideline was developed in line with international standards, and relevant staff received appropriate training on its use, with United Nations support. As a result, electronic waste data was collected, ready to be reflected in the inventory. Ultimately, the information gathered will help inform policy decisions in the field.

The Government of Bahrain also made significant advancements in increasing the availability of renewable energy and energy efficiency. More specifically, with the United Nations technical advice and capacity-strengthening support, a 250MW renewable energy power plant was approved, a Green Building Rating Scheme was developed along with frameworks for the commercial registration of renewable energy contractors and consultants, and progress was made in the formulation of a National Electric Vehicle Strategy.

Finally, the Government of Bahrain submitted a National Report on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The country was the first in the region to submit the report and one of the 25 countries globally, a result made possible by the United Nations' support in the process. As a by-product of the submission, there was an improvement in institutional coordination and data on urban-related issues.

At the local level, WHO designated Manama as a Healthy City 2021 in recognition of achievements in the last few decades

in education and literacy, health, water and sanitation, food safety and air pollution, a recognition also awarded to Um Al Hassam in 2018. The designation was based on a process of assessment and field visits in addition to a series of capacity building, advocacy and coordination efforts led by the Ministry of Health with the support of the United Nations.

Strengthening social cohesion and protection of vulnerable groups

The protection of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups is a top priority for the United Nations as an organization, which continuously takes significant steps to achieve this goal. As a result, approximately 200 persons of concern received information on asylum procedures and benefited from counselling in 2021, the capacity of over 30 frontline workers to respond to cases of trafficking in persons was strengthened, and 75 children increased their awareness about online safety and the prevention of bullying.

The above were only a few results achieved in this field. Given the cross-cutting nature of the principle of leaving no one behind underlying the work aimed at the protection of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, results in this area are to be found throughout this report.

Key Results

- SMART** action plan to strengthen national tobacco control developed
- Inventory guideline for e-waste management developed and used
- 250MW** renewable energy power plant approved
- National Report on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda submitted
- Manama designated as a Healthy City 2021
- >30** frontline workers have improved skills to respond to TiP cases
- 200** persons of concern received information on asylum procedures and benefited from counselling

OUTCOME 3: ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND RESILIENCE

Contributing agencies: ESCWA, ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOCT, UNODC, UNV, WHO

Targeted SDGs:

Expenditures in 2021: \$837 K

- Non-core: 90%
- Core/In-kind: 10%

Sources of non-core funding: Government of Bahrain, Government of Sweden, Government of the United Kingdom, Government of the United Arab Emirates

Key Results

- 4,000** people reached through 45 virtual events targeting start-ups and SMEs
- 448** business plans developed, with an estimated investment secured of \$95 million and 800 new jobs created
- 900** youth engaged in initiatives focused on entrepreneurship

in an entrepreneurship-focused initiative and programmes specifically designed to target Bahraini start-up entrepreneurs supported by the United Nations recorded a female participation rate of 72 per cent, which was significantly above the 40-50 per cent from previous years.

Promoting development-oriented and gender-responsive policies and tools

The Government of Bahrain made significant progress in promoting the rights of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups with the United Nations policy support in 2021, including through the development of a draft Action Plan of the National Strategy for the Rights of People with Disabilities 2022-2026. The document, once approved, will ensure that the rights of the over 11,000 persons with disabilities living in Bahrain are more effectively observed and realized.

United Nations advocacy efforts also helped the Government of Bahrain to strengthen the policy and regulatory framework regarding the equal treatment of migrant workers. The United Nations Network on Migration, which brings together over half of the United Nations entities working in the country, successfully engaged with the Government of Bahrain on the issue of maternity cover for female migrant workers in the public sector on one-year contracts. Representatives of the United Nations also engaged in a fruitful dialogue with the National COVID-19 Task Force on the COVID-19 vaccination of irregular migrants, ensuring that nobody was left behind in the national vaccination campaign.

Strengthening the policy environment and capacity for economic diversification, employment creation, rule of law and increased resilience and innovation remained high on the United Nations agenda in 2021, with several noteworthy results being achieved.

Increasing economic diversification

The year 2021 was marked by new progress in the field of economic diversification. Over 40 virtual events, workshops and forums aimed at stimulating start-ups and the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises were held during the year with the support of the United Nations. Approximately 4,000 experts and entrepreneurs participated in these events. Furthermore, nearly 450 business plans were developed and supported with an estimated investment of \$95 million, leading to the creation of around 800 jobs.

Special attention was given to strengthening entrepreneurship among women and youth. About 900 youth were engaged



Photo credit: UNDP
UNCT members Dr Tasnim Atatrah, WHO Representative (right), and Ms Aikan Mukanbetova, UNDP Head of Office a.i. (left), address the audience at a seminar organized on the occasion of the Bahrain 2020 Asian Youth Paralympic Games and the International Day of Persons with Disabilities held under the patronage of Shaikh Mohamed bin Duaij Al Khalifa, President of the Bahrain Paralympic Committee.

In addition, a mapping exercise was undertaken on the services available to migrant workers as well as the information gaps that they faced, and preparations for another one were initiated to help inform future programming and policy dialogues in the field.

Furthermore, government capacity in relation to gender-based violence and domestic violence reporting was enhanced through the participation of government representatives in a regional workshop on the strengthening of data systems on violence against women. The workshop was organized by the United Nations through an interagency effort.

Consolidating rule of law, access to justice and safety and security

Following a declaration of intent of cooperation signed in August 2021 between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i., the United Nations provided technical advice and support to the Government of Bahrain while it prepared its National Action Plan for Human Rights 2022-2026.

During the year, the capacity of 120 criminal justice practitioners in Bahrain concerning the use of non-custodial measures and sentences and the rights and needs of children was further consolidated under the ongoing partnership with the Ministry of Justice. Additional steps were also taken towards a more child-friendly and gender-sensitive justice system, including through the support provided in the alignment of the Restorative Justice Law for Children and their Protection from Maltreatment with international standards.

Strengthening research and data capacities

The United Nations in Bahrain continued to work closely with the Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies in conducting research to inform policy responses,

Key Results

- Draft **Action Plan of the National Strategy for the Rights of People with Disabilities** developed
- 120 public servants and other stakeholders** have increased capacity to implement effective criminal justice responses
- 13 research and analysis papers** produced on sustainable development-related issues

particularly to the COVID-19 pandemic, with three research papers being produced during the year as a result. The papers helped to shed light on the impact of remote working on Bahraini women, on the impact of the pandemic on the physical and mental well-being of the population and the role of telemedicine during the pandemic, as well as on the impact of loan deferrals, mandated by the Government, on Bahraini households.

A hackathon organized by the United Nations in partnership with the University of Bahrain and the Bahrain Institute for Public Administration resulted in the development of another 10 publishable research papers on the challenges generated by the pandemic. The papers were only the immediate outcome of the hackathon, with the increased capacity among the new generation of researchers to conduct solid scientific analysis following their participation in the event being the true result of the initiative.



Photo credit: UoB
Closing ceremony of the Post Pandemic Recovery Hackathon that generated 10 research papers focusing on the design of solutions for innovative public administration in the context of COVID-19 crisis.

OUTCOME 4: BAHRAIN AMONG NATIONS

Contributing agencies:
IOM, OHCHR, UNOCT, UNODC, UNDRR, UN Women, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNV, WHO

Targeted SDGs:

Expenditures in 2021: \$814 K

Non-core **43%** Core/In-kind **57%**

Sources of non-core funding:
Government of Bahrain
Global Environment Facility
Government of the United Arab Emirates

Key Results

- Minamata Convention on Mercury** ratified
- National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention** developed
- Regional Centre of Excellence for Capacity-Building in the Field of Combating Trafficking in Persons** launched
- 3 major global awards** organized

States on the International Migration Review Forum, the Intergovernmental Forum on Combating Trafficking in Persons in the Middle East, the sixty-eighth session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, as well as several others mentioned in this report and beyond.

The image of Bahrain as a model of good practice was further enhanced in 2021 with significant technical support and input from the United Nations. For example, the year saw the launch of the Regional Centre of Excellence for Capacity Building in the Field of Combating Trafficking in Persons – the first of its kind in the region. The centre will not only strengthen the capacity to combat trafficking in persons and improve services for victims of trafficking among professionals in Bahrain but will also serve the broader region, ensuring that relevant knowledge and expertise is transferred to other countries.

In addition, the COVID-19 success stories reported by Bahrain, as well as progress on health-related SDGs, were documented to share best practices in the field among health professionals and Bahraini legislation on the use of non-custodial measures and penalties was presented at the regional level as an example to follow. Furthermore, Bahrain was included as a case study in the report entitled “Volunteerism and the State in the Arab World: Toward Building an Inclusive Society”, being acknowledged as one of the countries in the Arab region that offers innovative models of the volunteer/State relationship that can be emulated to create more sustainable and inclusive societies.

During the year, the United Nations continued to support the Government of Bahrain in meeting its international commitments for sustainable development, strengthening its role in international and regional partnerships as well as creating a culture of global initiatives through a variety of initiatives.

Supporting the fulfilment of international commitments

With United Nations support, the Government of Bahrain strengthened its position as a State party to international instruments. Several efforts contributed to this result, including the ratification of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the development of a National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention via a multi-stakeholder consultative process and the consolidation of capacity for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol, among others.

The United Nations in Bahrain also facilitated the country’s participation in regional and global events for knowledge and experience sharing in the field of sustainable development, such as the Global Compact for Migration Regional Review Forum for the Arab Region and the Briefing for Member



Photo credit: UNDP

“From the beginning of the programme, from exploring Well-being until Design-Thinking, there was always mentorship from the programme team. When we came up with our idea, we explained it to them, and they were very open to it and gave us a lot of constructive feedback on how to make it even better and accessible to everyone.”

Fatema A. Jalil Radhi
participant in the seventh edition of the Youth Leadership Programme

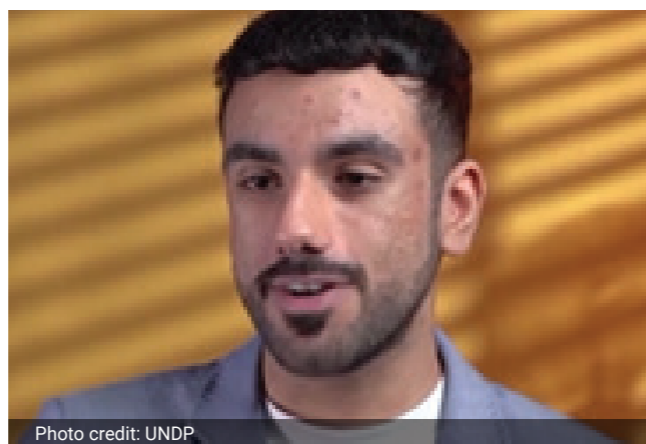


Photo credit: UNDP

“I remember my first day in YLP when I started, I was really nervous, but I really wanted to share a lot, and there were other changemaker[s] sharing... And there was something within me that told “now you need to share, now it's your time to shine up”. After one click of “unmute” [on Zoom] the change happened to me, I changed to the person I want to be right now.”

Marwan Jalal Kadhem
participant in the seventh edition of the Youth Leadership Programme

Key Results		Seventh edition of the Youth Leadership Programme implemented
		200 youth have increased awareness about the role of volunteerism
		9 civil society organizations have increased capacity to promote human rights and SDGs

Supporting the engagement of civil society organizations and relevant institutions in the promotion and advancement of SDGs

To support youth engagement in sustainable development, the United Nations, in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sport Affairs and five youth-serving organizations, implemented the seventh edition of the Youth Leadership Programme. The programme resulted in the development of social innovation ideas by seven teams, each with a unique social innovation approach that tackles a real challenge in Bahrain and the region.

Three global awards offered by the Kingdom of Bahrain or in partnership with Bahrain-based organizations were also made during the year with the support of the United Nations, including the fourth edition of the King Hamad

Youth Empowerment Award to Achieve the SDGs, the Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al-Khalifa Global Award for Women’s Empowerment and the third edition of Prince Mohammad bin Fahd International Foundation Insignia for Best Voluntary Work. All three awards promote the achievement of SDGs by recognizing outstanding efforts among different organizations, groups and individuals in the field.

Moreover, over 200 youth from several civil society organizations gained increased awareness about the role of volunteerism in achieving the SDGs following their participation in an awareness raising initiative organized by the United Nations in partnership with the Kaaf Humanitarian organization.

Strengthening the capacity of national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and other partners to promote human rights

In 2021, the United Nations contributed to the strengthening of the capacity of civil society organizations to engage with human rights mechanisms through targeted training, with three training sessions being organized for this purpose. The capacity of the Special Investigations Unit, tasked with the investigation of allegations of torture, was also enhanced through a training session on United Kingdom Office of Policing Standards delivered in partnership with the Office of the Ombudsman of the Ministry of Interior.



Photo credit: King Hamad Youth Empowerment Award to Achieve the SDGs. First launch of the King Hamad Youth Empowerment Award to Achieve the SDGs during the United Nations Economic and Social Council Youth Forum in 2017.

KING HAMAD YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AWARD TO ACHIEVE THE SDGs

The King Hamad Youth Empowerment Award to Achieve the SDGs is a flagship initiative of the Kingdom of Bahrain aimed at recognizing young people’s contributions to sustainable development as well as the efforts of institutions that create the enabling environment for youth to make an impact. The award was first launched in 2017 and subsequently supported by the United Nations entities since that time. In 2021, all the preparatory work was completed for the organization of the fourth edition of the award, with the launch being held in early 2022.

UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA

As cooperation across different stakeholders was crucial to the achievement of SDGs, the United Nations in Bahrain continued to strengthen its partnerships in 2021 through its numerous funds, programmes and specialized agencies. The United Nations also facilitated the strengthening of relationships across other development actors in the country and supported the Government of Bahrain in expanding its engagements in the region and beyond to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

All our activities in the country were implemented with the involvement of one or more of our partners, and many of our initiatives specifically focused on consolidating partnerships and contributing to the achievement of SDG 17. Out of the almost 40 sub-outputs under implementation by the UNCT in 2021, about one quarter had SDG 17 as a primary focus or as one of the several targeted SDGs.

During the year, United Nations entities signed new cooperation agreements and established new partnerships. For example, to increase access to key information for migrant workers and reduce their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse, a new partnership was developed with the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Kuwait. The partnership resulted in the provision of funding for a post-arrival orientation programme for migrant workers in Bahrain, set to be

implemented in 2022. This partnership is reflective of the UNCT efforts to identify and tap into new sources of funding to accelerate the achievement of SDGs.

To promote youth engagement in sustainable development and consolidate youth programming, agreements were signed with several civil society organizations. Two of these organizations joined the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs and a few other youth-serving entities in a strong platform for cross-organizational partnership for youth empowerment as part of the implementation of a youth leadership programme supported by the United Nations.

Furthermore, the United Nations facilitated the engagement of diverse stakeholders in the development of national strategies and action plans, including in the formulation of the draft National Food Security Strategy 2020-2030, the draft Action Plan of the National Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2022-2026. In addition to ensuring the development of policy documents more responsive to existing needs, these efforts laid the foundation for effective cooperation in their implementation.

The United Nations support to partnerships for the goals and financing of the 2030 Agenda in Bahrain transcends the

country's borders. For instance, the establishment of the Regional Centre of Excellence for Capacity Building in the Field of Combating Trafficking in Persons in 2021 with the United Nations support will not only strengthen the capacity of those dealing with victims of trafficking in persons in Bahrain but will also facilitate the transfer of relevant knowledge and skills to those working with similar populations in other countries in the Middle East and North Africa region. The different global awards conferred by the Kingdom of Bahrain with the support of the United Nations and with the participation of regional and international partners also recognize the role of different

organizations and individuals in development and strengthen alliances for SDGs.

The United Nations further supported the sharing of developing country expertise in Bahrain, particularly in the field of renewable energy generation. Specifically, the capacity building initiatives implemented by the Sustainable Energy Unit with the support of the United Nations involved a training partner from Sri Lanka, reflecting how developing country partners can play a mutually beneficial role in the development of Bahrain.

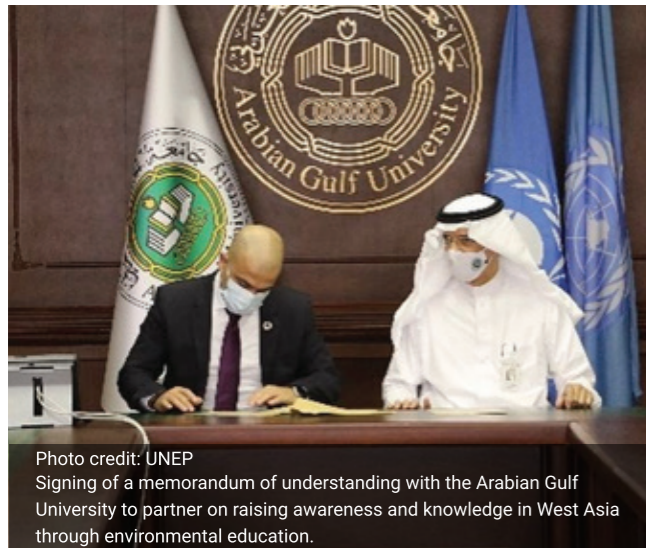


Photo credit: UNEP
Signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Arabian Gulf University to partner on raising awareness and knowledge in West Asia through environmental education.



Photo credit: UNDP
Signing of an agreement with the Abdulrahim AlKooheji Foundation to support youth.



Photo credit: LMRA
Group photo from the first training programme for trainers who deal with victims of trafficking in persons organized by the Regional Centre of Excellence for Capacity Building in the Field of Combating Trafficking in Persons.

RESULTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS WORKING MORE AND BETTER TOGETHER: UNITED NATIONS COHERENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

The signing of the SCF 2021-2022 marked the greatest milestone from the coordination standpoint for the UNCT in Bahrain in 2021. The document, which was developed in close partnership with the Government of Bahrain, will guide the work of the United Nations in the country until at least the end of 2022. Following the signing of this key strategic document, the UNCT made considerable further progress towards strengthening its coordination, coherence and efficiency on the ground.

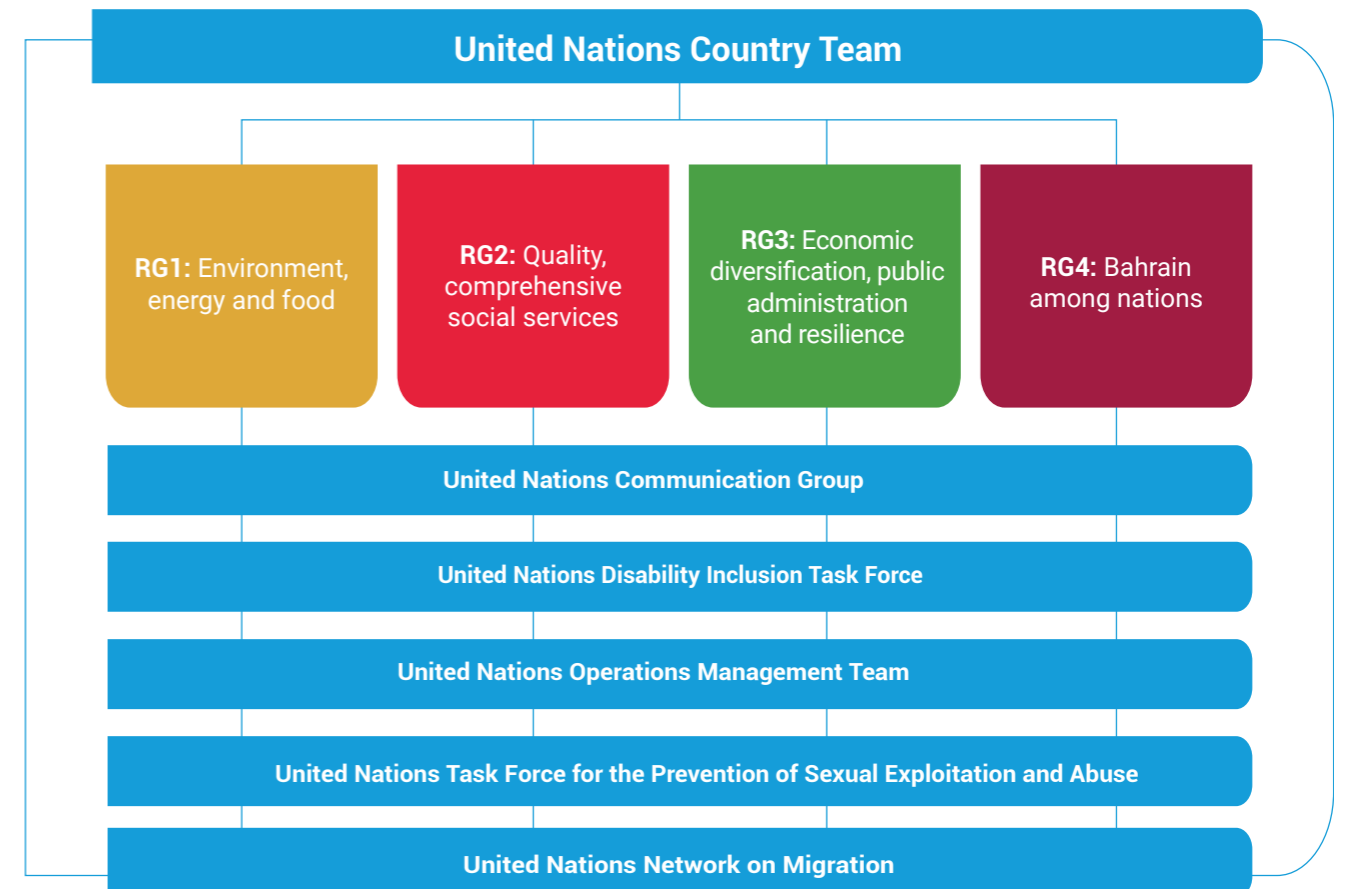
Several important joint initiatives were implemented or developed during the year, reflecting the complementarity and synergies operating across the United Nations entities working in the country. The draft Action Plan of the National Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2022-2026 was developed with input from multiple United Nations entities coming together and contributing their specialized knowledge and expertise to the process in a display of genuinely joint activity. Several United Nations entities also provided technical advice to the Government during the preparation of its Nations

Actional Plan for Human Rights. Significant joint efforts were also undertaken in the fields of labour migration, urban health, SDG mainstreaming in higher education and youth engagement in development work.

The UNCT also made considerable progress during the year in strengthening its coordination mechanisms, with tangible results:

- A United Nations Communication Group was established to improve coordination on communication and advocacy issues and promote joint communication.
- A UNCT Disability Inclusion Coordinator was appointed, and a UNCT Disability Inclusion Task Force was established to guide the UNCT work on disability inclusion.
- Four Results Groups were established – one per strategic priority under the SCF 2021-2022 – to coordinate the implementation of the document and monitor the achievement of the envisaged development results.

UNCT COORDINATION STRUCTURES



Furthermore, joint analysis and assessment were consolidated during the year, with the production of a draft Common Country Analysis. The document represents the United Nations development system's independent, impartial and collective assessment and analysis of the country's situation vis-à-vis the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and other commitments. The analysis benefited from the insights of the UNCT but also from those of numerous government officials and other stakeholders. Its findings will inform United Nations programming in the country moving forward.

Through joint efforts, a UNCT Gender Equality Scorecard was implemented to assess the United Nations gender mainstreaming practices and performance at the country level. The UNCT in Bahrain was one of the first in the region to implement the exercise, and its results will help strengthen the United Nations programming, operations and communications from a gender mainstreaming perspective in the country. Also implemented were a UNCT Accountability Scorecard on Disability Inclusion Scorecard and a 2030 Youth UNCT Scorecard.

Finally, the UNCT developed its first ever JWP for 2021-2022 that captures the work of all United Nations entities working

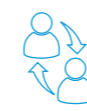
The UNCT Disability Inclusion Task Force served as the driving force behind the joint United Nations efforts on disability inclusion and the support provided in the development of the draft Action Plan of the National Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2022-2026. In December 2021, the Task Force, in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, organized a workshop on disability inclusion, which brought together more than 100 representatives of the United Nations entities, government ministries, and a wide range of organizations of persons with disabilities to discuss and inform policy decisions concerning the rights of persons with disabilities.

in Bahrain. The document was endorsed by the UNCT and presented to the Government of Bahrain at the beginning of 2022. This plan, for the first time, offered the UNCT and its partners a comprehensive overview of how the United Nations entities collectively contribute to the development of Bahrain and the advancement of SDGs in the country.



Photo credit: MoFA
United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i. in Bahrain Mohamed El Zarkani discusses the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the Government of Bahrain with the Assistant Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Faisal bin Jabr Al Dossari

CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED



Constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic

Pandemic-related restrictions limited physical interactions and in-person contacts at all levels and slowed down some of the activities planned for the year. Several in-country missions had to be postponed, affecting the provision of technical expertise and support services. Virtual meeting platforms, however, allowed staff to continue the delivery of most aspects of support.



Limited availability of financial resources

The United Nations entities benefited from considerable government funding during the year as well as financial support from other development partners. Nevertheless, further resource mobilization efforts and access to innovative financing are required to meet the estimated funding gap for the full implementation of the SCF 2021-2022.



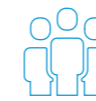
Importance of national commitment

Strong national commitment is essential to achieving significant, long-lasting development results. Appropriate institutional arrangements and mechanisms, including multi-stakeholder technical teams, can also facilitate the process. Consequently, strengthening the dialogue with the Government and identifying additional opportunities for improved coordination across development partners will remain key to further progress.



Interagency coordination

Interlinkages between development activities and the complexity of development issues will also require the consolidation of efforts towards improving coordination within the United Nations development system to maximize its effectiveness and efficiency. Previous steps undertaken in this regard have proven successful, providing the foundation for greater synergies and collaboration among United Nations entities.



Opportunities for civil society and private sector engagement

Civil society engagement in United Nations activities can be further strengthened, especially in relation to issues on the protection and promotion of human rights. The establishment and consolidation of partnerships with private sector companies as key development actors also present an opportunity for the implementation of a "society across the board" approach to sustainable development in Bahrain.



Role of data and analysis

Coordinated and targeted background briefs backed by solid evidence and data are an effective way to engage key stakeholders on specific issues and ensure that development programming is appropriately addressing existing needs. Therefore, consolidated efforts are required to ensure the greater availability of timely data, particularly disaggregated data, for tracking the achievement of SDGs.

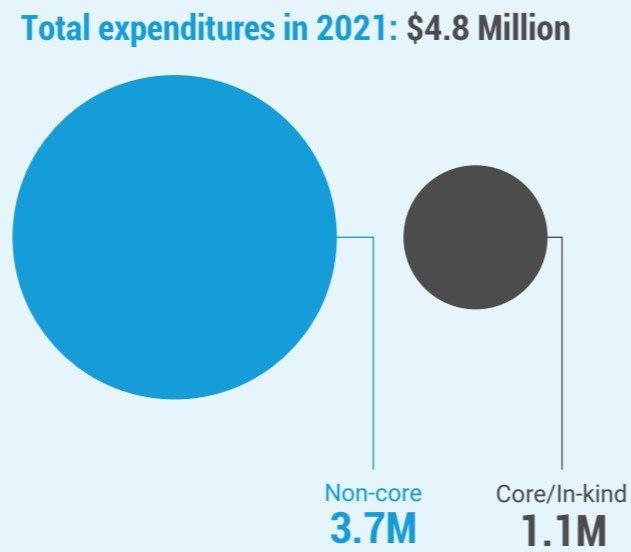
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The total budget of the 2021-2022 JWP under the SCF 2021-2022 stands at \$36.5 million. Out of the total required resources, \$12.1 million are available, which translates into a 33 per cent coverage rate. Another \$24.5 million remain to be mobilized as of December 2021.¹

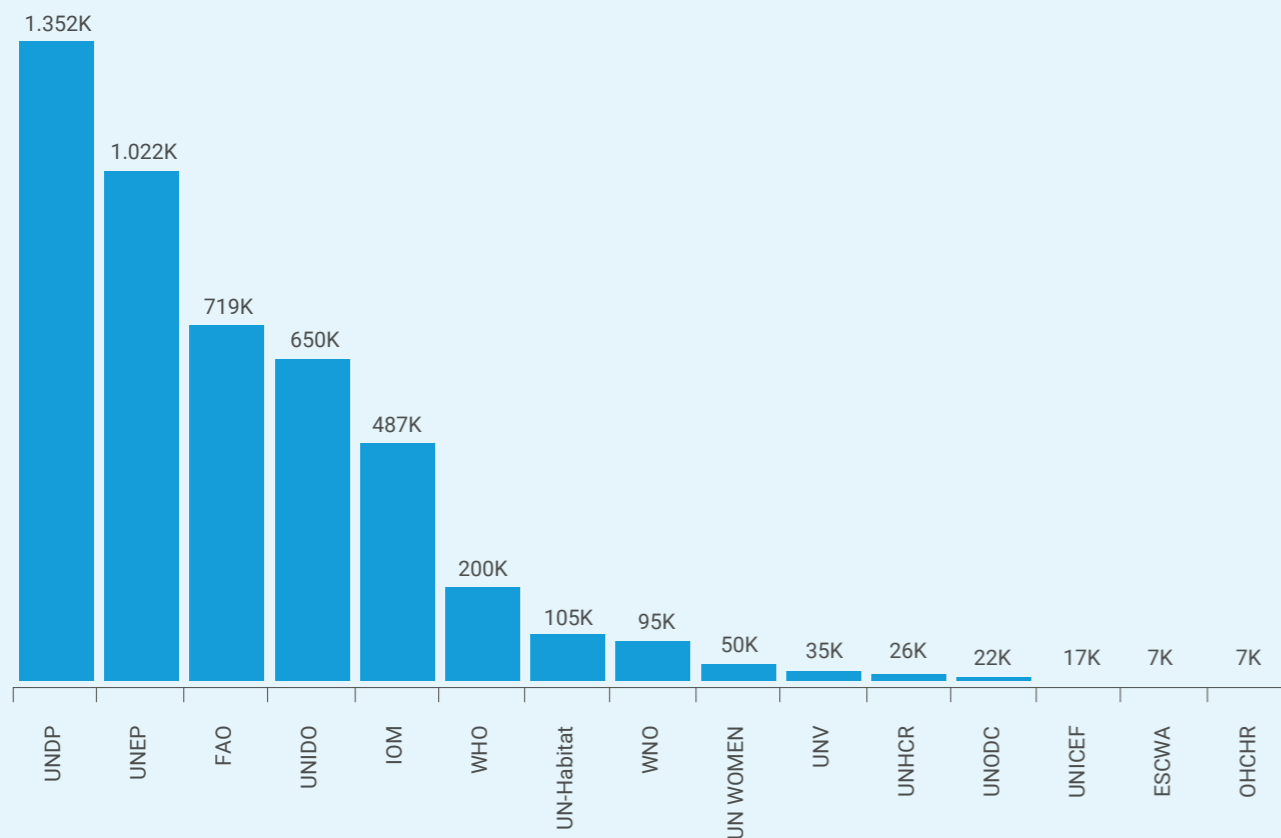
The total expenditures under the plan amounted to \$4.8 million in 2021, including both core and non-core resources and taking the form of financial and in-kind contributions. About three fourths of the total expenditures were financed by contributing partners and the rest came from core resources.

The funds were expended by 15 United Nations funds, programmes and specialised agencies that implemented activities in the Kingdom of Bahrain in 2021.

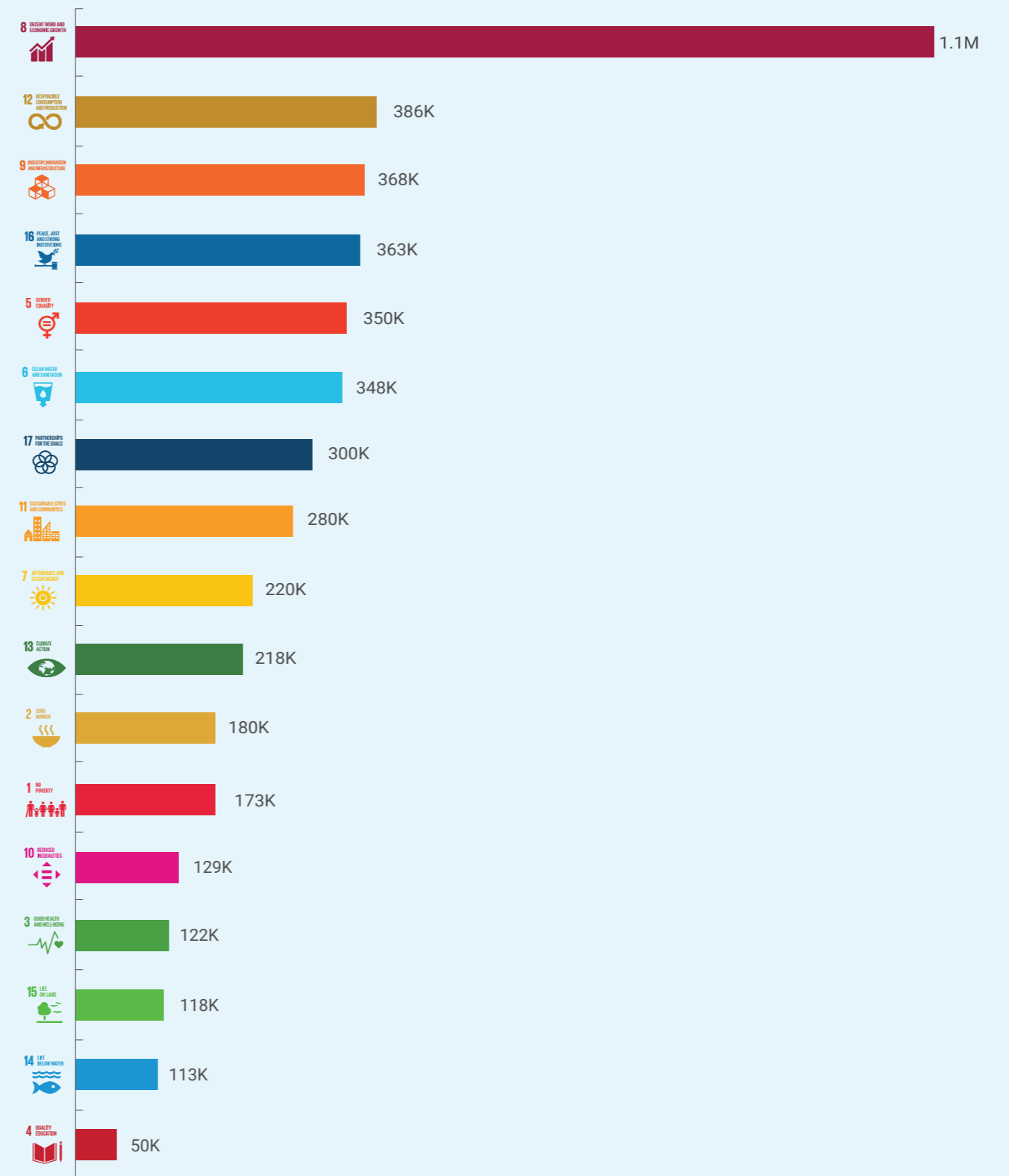
Contributions were made across all SDGs, with most funding being directed towards SDGs 8, 12, 9, 16 and 5, followed by the remainder.²



Expenditures by entity



Expenditures by SDG



1. The amounts do not add up exactly because of rounding up or down.
 2. The calculations are approximate, with investments tagged with multiple SDGs being equally split across those SDGs.



**UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM
KEY FOCUS FOR 2022**

CHAPTER

3

Photo credit: UN in Bahrain

The United Nations House in Bahrain goes orange in support of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. In 2021, as in the previous year, the United Nations in Bahrain was bathed in orange light throughout the campaign. Several other buildings in the country went orange during the campaign as part of an initiative supported by the Supreme Council of Women.

3 UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM KEY FOCUS FOR 2022

SCF 2021-2022 effective implementation

In 2022, the UNCT in Bahrain will continue to support the country in achieving its national priorities and the 2030 Agenda, in line with the SCF 2021-2022 and the 2021-2022 JWP. Activities for the year are planned across all United Nations priority areas in the country, with a strong focus being placed, as in the past, on policy support and capacity development efforts.

Leaving no one behind

Leaving no one behind will remain a key driving principle of the United Nations work in the country, and the cross-cutting areas of human rights, gender equality and disability inclusion will continue to be prioritized. In the lead up to the upcoming Universal Periodic Review planned for October 2022, the UNCT is preparing to provide support to the Government of Bahrain by reviewing the progress achieved since the last review. This will also allow to support the preparation and implementation of the Action Plan of the National Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2022-2026. Gender programming is also expected to be strengthened. Improving the mainstreaming of gender equality, disability inclusion and youth across UNCT work will be given special attention, including through the establishment of a UNCT Gender Thematic Group.

Interagency coordination

The important steps taken in 2021 to enhance interagency coordination will be consolidated in 2022. It is anticipated that all the interagency groups and other structures established in 2021 and earlier will become fully functional and fulfil their programming, communications and operations roles in line with their agreed terms of reference. Efforts will also be undertaken, in conjunction with the Government of Bahrain, to ensure that the SCF Joint Steering Committee continues to serve as an effective mechanism for strategic guidance and oversight in the implementation of the SCF 2021-2022.

SDG Partnerships and Financing

The engagement of all stakeholders in the development process is essential to the achievement of SDGs. Consequently, the UNCT will continue to strengthen its existing partnerships and build new ones in 2022. Strengthening relationships with civil society and the private sector will be especially prioritized. At the same time, efforts will be undertaken to support the development of a national framework for the financing of SDGs to accelerate their achievement.

Resource mobilization

Joint programming and joint resource mobilization operate hand-in-hand where effective SCF 2021-2022 implementation is concerned. The latter allows the United Nations to direct efforts for the identification of new funds and funding sources towards areas of priority at the level of the entire system. Whereas in 2021, the UNCT focused on consolidating its joint programming, enhancing resource mobilization via joint efforts will play a more central role in 2022, which is an aspect of particular importance, given the current SCF 2021-2022 funding gap and the potential for economies of scale.

Joint analysis and data for SDGs

A solid evidence base is essential for effective programming and therefore, joint analysis will continue to be a key focus for the UNCT in 2022. The Common Country Analysis and two supporting papers, one on food systems and one on social protection, are expected to be finalized in the first quarter of the year. The analysis will be supplemented by targeted briefs on social and policy issues throughout the year. Efforts to increase SDG data availability will also be prioritized.



ANNEXES

ANNEX 1. LIST OF KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN IN 2021

Financing partners

• Global Environment Facility	• Government of the United Kingdom
• Government of Bahrain	• Government of the United Arab Emirates
• Government of Sweden	• Green Climate Fund

Implementing partners

• Seventh Generation Advisors	• Bahrain Meteorological Directorate
• Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa	• Bahrain National Commission for UNESCO
• Abdulrahim AlKooheji Foundation	• Bahrain Nursing Society
• Ahlia University	• Bahrain Red Crescent
• AIESEC Bahrain	• Bahrain Royal Humanitarian Foundation
• AlMabarrah AlKhalifia Foundation	• Bahrain SME Development Society
• Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage	• Bahrain Women Union
• Arab Voluntary Union	• Capital Governorate
• Arabian Gulf University	• Confederation of Indian Industry
• Ayadi Relief	• Electricity and Water Authority
• Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities	• Embassy of France
• Bahrain Businesswomen's Society	• Embassy of Germany
• Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies	• Embassy of Israel
• Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry	• Embassy of Palestine
• Bahrain Development Bank	• Embassy of the United Kingdom
• Bahrain Entrepreneurs Organization	• General Federation of Bahraini Trade Unions
• Bahrain Federation for the Persons with Disabilities	• Global Shapers
• Bahrain Institute of Public Administration	• Higher Committee for Persons with Disabilities

• Information and eGovernment Authority	• National Health Regulatory Authority
• International Federation of Medical Students' Associations	• National Initiative for Agricultural Development
• International Women's Entrepreneurial Challenge Foundation	• National Institute for Human Rights
• Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum	• National Mariculture Centre
• Judicial and Legal Studies Institute	• Prime Minister's Office
• Kaaf Humanitarian	• Public Prosecutor's Office
• KOSGEB	• Regional Center for Information and Communication Technologies
• Labour Market Regulatory Authority	• Rotaract Club of Bahrain
• Ministry of Cabinet Affairs	• Shenzhen Federation of Youth Entrepreneurship Promotion
• Ministry of Education	• SME Fund Egypt
• Ministry of Finance	• Special Investigation Unit
• Ministry of Foreign Affairs	• Supreme Judicial Council
• Ministry of Health	• Supreme Council for Environment
• Ministry of Housing	• Supreme Council for Health
• Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism	• Supreme Council for Women
• Ministry of Interior	• Sustainable Energy Authority
• Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf	• Tamkeen
• Ministry of Labour and Social Development	• Union of Arab Banks
• Ministry of Oil	• Union of Arab Chambers
• Ministry of Works, Municipality Affairs and Urban Planning	• University of Bahrain
• Ministry of Youth and Sport Affairs	• World Business Angels Forum
• Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies	• Youth Pioneers Society

ANNEX 2. ACRONYMS

ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross domestic product
GoB	Government of Bahrain
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
JWP	Joint Work Plan
LMRA	Labour Market Regulatory Authority
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NCDs	Non-communicable diseases
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
SCF	Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and United Nations Strategic and Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UoB	University of Bahrain
WHO	World Health Organization
WHOCC	WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing Development
WMO	World Meteorological Organization



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